Can I sell my stuff and is it worth it?



Photo W. Scheck

By Jennifer Raftis, CPO

If you are wondering if something in your home is worth selling, how can you find out if it has value and can you sell it?

This is a question that I am often asked by my clients. If you have jewelry, furniture, artwork or decor that you believe is of high value, try searching the artist's or designer's name on Google or similar platform to see if you get any results. If that name shows up in a search engine, you might be in luck.

Unfortunately, I have found that just because an item has value, it doesn't mean you can get money for it and just because you paid a large sum for the item doesn't mean it has monetary value now.

For consignment stores, such as Hilton House in Orinda (www.hilton-housedesigns.com) or Divine Designs in Lafayette (www.divineconsign-shop.com) or auction houses, the item usually needs to be trending for them to sell it. Recently, a client had a beautiful large armoire from Italy that they spent a fortune on years ago, and now hoped to sell. Unfortunately, they could not sell or even donate this piece because of its size. Large furniture can be hard to sell because it costs a lot of money to transport the item both to the consignment shop and then to the buyer's home, and the buyer has to have room to accommodate it. I recommend taking photos and sending them to an auction house or consignment store to have them evaluate whether they will take the item. ... continued on Page D12

